

Kelly's

Coins and Chatter

JAMES KELLY

3rd and Broadway

DAYTON 7, OHIO

Subscription \$1.00 per year.
Refunded with \$10 purchase.

February 1949

Vol. 2 - 2

A Personal Message

I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the many letters of praise and encouragement for COINS AND CHATTER. Also for the hundreds of subscriptions paid either by cash or an order.

It is impossible to thank each and every one personally as I would like to do but you may be sure I will do my utmost to merit your confidence and all the nice things predicted and expected.

It was also most gratifying to see the response to my request for articles on numismatic subjects. The four printed in this issue are representative of the many received, and the judges will have quite a time selecting the winner. (Read January issue regarding contest.)

COMING EVENTS

MIDWEST COIN CONFERENCE

April 23 - 24, 1949

PICKWICK HOTEL, KANSAS CITY, MO.

* * *

CENTRAL STATES CONVENTION

MAY 13 - 14 - 15

BOOK-CADILLAC HOTEL, DETROIT, MICH.

* * *

1949 A. N. A. CONVENTION

AUGUST 21st to 24th

PALACE HOTEL, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

(Reservations should be made early)

A Real Buy

1864 3¢ SILVER

Only 470 coined.

Catalogues at \$50.

Brilliant

Proof...\$37.50



COLONIAL SILVER COINS

1652 Oak Tree Shilling, Unc. and very well struck. Slight planchet defect, Gem	\$50.00
1652 Oak Tree Shilling, tree in small circle, large planchet, Very fine, plus	40.00
1662 Oak Tree Twopence, Fine to Very fine	25.00
1652 Pine Tree Shilling, large planchet, well struck. Practically Unc, very choice coin..	65.00
1652 Pine Tree Shilling, Unc. but lightly struck, choice...	37.50
1652 Pine Tree Shilling, large planchet and Very fine	35.00
1652 Pine Tree Shilling, small planchet, broken die reverse, Fine	27.50
1652 Pine Tree Sixpence, Fine and rare	25.00
1652 Pine Tree Threepence, choice Extremely fine and rare	37.50

CENTRAL STATES CONVENTION

May 13-14-15, 1949

Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit

This will be THE meeting of the year in the East or the Middlewest. I will conduct a two-day Sale and to the collector desiring to sell his collection to the best advantage, this will offer an unusual opportunity. All consignments must be on hand by March 1st as this will be a plate catalogue.

DON'T OVERLOOK
THIS OPPORTUNITY !

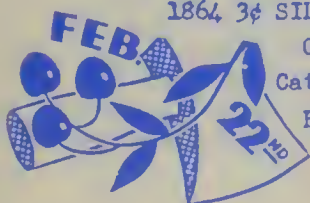
FRONT PAGE Specials

1798 \$2.50 Gold, only slight wear, choice Very fine.....	\$ 125.00
1825 \$2.50 Gold, practically Unc. Choice and very rare..	85.00
1875 \$2.50 Gold S Mint, Unc.	18.00
1854 \$3.00 Gold Dahlonga Mint Ext. fine and choice. A very rare coin	75.00
1873 \$3.00 Gold, Unc. but beautiful Proof surface....	25.00
1907 Double Eagle, Roman Numerals, St. Gaudens design with high wire edge, Gem, Unc.	115.00
1796 Castorland Colonial Token Struck in Gold, Beautiful Proof and excessively rare..	150.00

PIONEERS' "PAYOFF IN SCALPS"

Indians had a good eye for scalps whether on themselves, white men or red-headed woodpeckers. In the early days of California and Oregon the redskins' desire for personal adornment was responsible for the introduction of a strange kind of currency. The scalps of these beautiful red and white marked birds were much desired ornaments for wampum belts, and crude bows and arrows were not expert weapons for knocking them down off their high perches in tree tops. The frontiersmen with their guns, on the other hand, killed them easily. Therefore the standard circulating value soon reached fifty cents apiece, and it was not uncommon for pioneers to use these bird scalps in their transactions with the Indians.

Submitted by
Clarence M. Fink, Pasadena, Calif.



BANK NOTE HITS HIGH NOTE IN HISTORY

It is not generally known that a ten dollar bank note was responsible for naming a famous section of our American nation. Printed in French, Americanized by energetic river captains and others, it caused composer Dan Emmett to write an epic song that soon etched its way into the hearts of millions of Americans and quickly produced a permanent label for all land below the Mason-Dixon line.

Well over a hundred years ago the prominent Citizens' Bank of Louisiana in the heart of New Orleans began to encounter the numerous counterfeit state bank notes which threatened to disrupt their daily business, and it was difficult to identify the good from the spurious. As a counter measure, a clever employee of the Banque des Citoyens conceived the idea of giving check books to depositors with their names engraved on each check. The bank continued to issue its own notes, and as the establishment was of French, notes were printed in French. Nearly all denominations were unpronounceable, except to Creole inhabitants of New Orleans. The name of the ten dollar bill was the simplest to pronounce (or mispronounce) or rather the easiest to popularize. American traders took the printed French word DIX (des-ten) in large letters on the notes and turned it into a trustworthy monetary by-word, as it was convenient to carry "dix" notes with them. New Orleans being the home of Dix notes and hospitality at its finest, it was common to hear: "I'm going down south for dixies!" As the name of the bank was a tongue twister, it was much easier to refer to Banque des Citoyens as the "Dixie Bank."

Shivering in a New York home in the winter of 1859, while racking his mind for an inspiration for a song, Dan Emmett remarked to his wife, "I wish I was in Dixie!" Looking up at his wistful statement, she replied with practical wisdom, "Dan, there's your song idea." Emmett seized his banjo and picked out a melody and "Dixie" was born.

Submitted by

Clarence M. Pink, Pasadena, Calif.

1949 Booker T. Washington Memorial Half Dollars

Philadelphia, Denver, San Francisco Mints
Very limited issue — Only 12,000 Sets
Order NOW for delivery about January 15th

Price, postpaid, \$8.50 per set

1946 P D & S Set	\$ 4.00
1947 P D & S Set	6.00
1948 P D & S Set	7.50

FIVE CENT PIECES (Nickel)

Circulated

1866 V.Gd. 1.25; Good	\$.75
1867 with rarey, V.fine.....	5.00
1867 V.Fine 1.00; V.good.....	.50
1868 V.fine 1.00; V.good.....	.50
1869 V.fine 1.25; V.good.....	.60
1870 V.good 1.25; Good .....	.75
1872 V.good 1.00; Good .....	.60
1873 Good 75¢; 1874 Fair ....	.50
1874 Fine plus	3.50
1875 Very fine plus	7.50
1875 Fine 6.00; Good plus ...	2.50
1876 Fine to Very fine	2.50
1876 V.Gd 1.75; 1882 Abt.Unc.	1.25
1882 Fine 90¢; Very good ....	.50
1884 V. good 75¢; Good .....	.50
1887-9-90-1-2 V.Gd 75¢; Good.	.50
1893-4-5-6-7 Very good .....	.75
1912 S, Very good	2.00
All others after 1897 V. Gd 25¢;	
Fine .....	.40

SPECIAL LISTING

SCARCE U. S. ODDS & ENDS

1858 Flying Eagle Cent, small letters, Brill. proof	\$50.00
1798 Large Cent, Unc, red and brown, well struck with semi-proof surface	50.00
1794 Half Dollar, V. good...	25.00
1933 S Mint Half Dollar, Unc.	12.50
1795 Silver Dollar, Flowing Hair variety, Fine plus	22.50

HALF DIMES

1837 Rare variety with small 5¢ on Rev. Almost Unc.....	17.50
1837 Lib. seated without stars Small date, Uncirculated ...	7.50
1864 Rare, Brilliant proof..	35.00
1865 Brilliant proof	12.00
1867 Brilliant proof	5.00
1868 Brilliant proof	5.00
1869 Brilliant proof	4.50
1870 Brilliant proof	4.00
1871 Brilliant proof	4.00



"Now listen! We sold our house to buy coins but just because of so many bargains in COINS & CHATTER, we're not going to sell this trailer and live in a tent!"

Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back

MONEY CRISIS IN 1861

Our monetary system experienced one of the strangest events in its history with the disappearance of \$889,000,000.00, the mint's entire 71 year coin output, in a matter of days. This national calamity occurred in April, 1861 upon the outbreak of the Civil War. Behind this disappearance was the population's determination to salvage anything of positive value from the expected catastrophe to the nation. One story is told of a New York home collapsing because of the weight of copper coins hoarded in a second floor room. Transportation tokens, milk tickets, and many other items of transferable value were pressed into service for change.

The state issues of dollar banknotes prevented a major disaster. Up to this time, currency had not proved popular but \$850,000,000.00 worth of various denominations were issued in the twenty-one months after this occurrence. Postage stamps appeared as a change substitute but the supply dwindled and their use was discouraged due to soiling and contact with moisture. This problem was solved by some who enveloped their stamps in coin denominations. But, in spite of these solutions, many, including General Spinner, Secretary of the Treasury, were obliged to purchase unneeded articles for their change. General Spinner hit upon the idea of postage stamps, in needed amounts, pasted on bank note paper, tried it out in his office and it was readily accepted.

In August 1862 Congress authorized a \$50,000,000.00 issue of this "skin plaster" change and the first issues resembled his idea. Later issues bore the portraits of four presidents and five secretaries of the treasury. During the fourteen years of its five issues, some \$368,000,000 in three to fifty cent values were printed. Of this total, there was never, at any time, the authorized amount in circulation and approximately \$15,000,000.00 has never been redeemed. Loss by fire, deterioration and other causes estimated by a Treasury Survey have resulted in reduction of this amount to \$1,979,400.00 which amount is carried as part of the public debt, interest free.

Collectors of these historical colorful banknotes estimate there are no more than \$500,000.00 left of these issues today, most of which is in numismatic hands.

Submitted by

Norris Woldy, Berwyn, Illinois

A stout heart crushes ill luck.

Questions AND Answers

- Q. How many 1913 Liberty Head Nickels were struck?
A. To the best of my knowledge, five. There is mention of a sixth but it has never been accounted for.
* * *
- Q. What is the most rare coin in the world?
A. None can be more rare than the 1849 U. S. Double Eagle. Only one was coined.
* * *
- Q. How can one tell the difference between the restrike and the original 1827 Quarter?
A. On the restrike the base of the figure 2 in 25¢ is square whereas on the original it is curved. The restrikes were also struck from rusty dies and this usually shows on the coins.
* * *
- Q. Why were there no Cents struck in 1815?
A. The Mint burned down - or nearly so - during that year and only a few Quarters and Half Dollars were struck prior to this accident.
* * *
- Q. What does the maple leaf indicate on 1947 Canadian coins?
A. That they were struck in 1948. There was such a demand for silver coins before the 1948 dies were ready, that this method was used.
* * *
- Q. Was there ever a U. S. coin called in or demonetized by the Government?
A. The Trade Dollar by an Act of Congress in 1887. For six months they would be exchanged for a standard dollar after which time they would be accepted at metal value. However, these were never intended for circulation in this country. Last but not least, the late Pres. Roosevelt called in all gold in 1934.
* * *

FOREIGN SETS

CANADA 1937 Specimens set in box 1¢ to \$1.00. Unc. 6 pcs..... \$ 5.00
LUXEMBURG 1946 Commemorative Set of 100, 50 & 20 Francs of Prince Jean, Unc. 3 pcs..... 7.50
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS 1936 Commemorative Silver Set, 2 one peso pieces, one with Roosevelt and Quezon, the other Murphy & Quezon. Also 50 Centavo piece. Unc. in card, 3 pieces 15.00
IRISH FREE STATE 1928, ¼ D to 2 S, 6 D, Unc. 8 pieces 6.00
CAPE VERDE ISLAND SET 1930, One Escudo, 5-10-20-50 Centavos, Uncirculated, 5 pieces 3.00

PLAYING CARDS USED AS MONEY IN EARLY CANADA

Money! Money! Money! Today, more than ever, it seems to be a chief topic of conversation. It forms the sinews and nerves, not only of war, but of the aftermaths of war. And today it is counted by the nations in the millions and billions. Millions were practically unknown to our ancestors. But even in the days when currency consisted of beaver skins, wampum or playing cards, money was a source of worry to the inhabitants of the colonies.

"Especies sonnantes," that is, metallic coins, had always been rare in the American colonies and in French Canada. The few that were put into circulation from time to time disappeared quickly; the colonists eagerly collected them and melted them down to make silver bowls, goblets or jewelry, or simply stored them away against a rainy day. This lack of actual currency or "hard money" frequently necessitated a resort to barter in the exchange of commodities.

In 1684 Louis XIV of France had sent out the Carignan regiment to Canada, but neglected to send money for the payment of the troops. It was an embarrassing situation for the Intendant, Jacques de Meulles, for the soldiers could hardly be expected to wait for their pay until next summer when the next ships would arrive from France. The Intendant, a resourceful man, hit upon a novel idea for manufacturing paper money to tide them over the emergency situation. Not having a paper mill or a printing press, de Meulles used for the purpose the blank backs of playing cards, of which there were plenty in the colony. On the back of the queen of spades for example, was written "Bon pour la somme de douze livres," while the ace of diamonds was good for three livres. The Intendant stamped each card with the coat of arms of France, and each card carried his signature as well as that of the governor.

For smaller denominations, the cards were cut into halves and quarters, each worth a certain number of livres, sols or deniers. (Under the French regime in Canada money was counted in these denominations and old French accounts; such as the Jesuit journals, use the signs L. s. and d. It is only a coincidence that they should be the same as those which indicate the English pounds, shillings and pence.)

This card money, born of necessity was the first paper currency to be introduced into America. A number of specimens have survived and are to be found today in various private

FOREIGN DOLLAR SIZE COINS

AUSTRIA 1564-95 Crown Ferd I. Uncirculated \$ 5.00
1780 Marie Theresa Dollar for circulation in Ethiopia. V.F. 2.00
CHINA (1911) Silver dollar, bust Sun Yat Sen. About Unc. 2.50
(1914) Dollar Yuan Shi Kai, V.F. 2.00
(1934) Dollar Sun Yat Sen, Chinese Junk on River. Unc. 3.00
CUBA 1915, 1 Peso. Unc. 2.50
GREAT 1892 Crown Victoria Jubilee bust. Choice, Uncirculated... 7.50
GUATEMALA 1825, 8 Reals, V.F. 3.00
HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE 1761 Peace Crown Frances I. V.fine. 3.00
HUNGARY 1900, 5 Korona, Unc.. 3.00
1938 Crown of 5 Pengos, Bust of St. Stephen, scarce. Br. Proof.. 5.00
1939, 5 Pengos Adm. Horthy, Unc 5.00
INDO CHINA 1896, 1 Piastre, V.F. 3.00
LOMBARDY 1848, 5 Lire of Provisional Government. Abt. Unc. 3.00
LUXEMBURG 1946, 100 Francs Prince Jean, Uncirculated. 5.00
MEXICO 1788, 5 Reals Chas III Very fine 2.50
1792, 8 Reals Chas IV. V.fine. 2.50
1910 Comm. Peso. Very fine. 2.00
PHILIPPINES 1907 Peso, V.fine. 2.00
RUSSIA 1732 Rouble of Anna, V.F. 5.00
SALVADORE 1893, Head of Columbus Very fine, 1 Peso 2.50
SAXONY 1543 Crown of John, bust on either side. Very fine 7.50
SICILY 1852 Crown, Fine 2.00
SOUTH AFRICA 1948 Crown of George VI. Uncirculated 3.50
SWEDEN 1773, Broad crown of Gustavus III. Very fine 5.00
1947 MacArthur Commemorative Set Peso & 50¢, Unc., 2 pcs. 3.00

Coins in Sets

PHILIPPINES 1906 Proof Set, Half Centavo to 1 Peso, 7 pcs. 10.00
1908 Proof Set, Half Centavo to 1 Peso, 7 pieces 10.00
IRAN Set, 5 Dinars to 10 Rials Uncirculated, 7 pieces 5.00
ITALIAN-ETHIOPIA Set, 1936, 100 and 50 Lire in Gold; 5-10-20 Lire in silver, balance copper & nickel. Uncirculated, 11 pcs..50.00



PLAYING CARDS AS MONEY
(continued)

and public collections in Canada and abroad.

Submitted by
Paul L. Borrowman, Wyoming, Canada

INDIAN HEAD CENTS

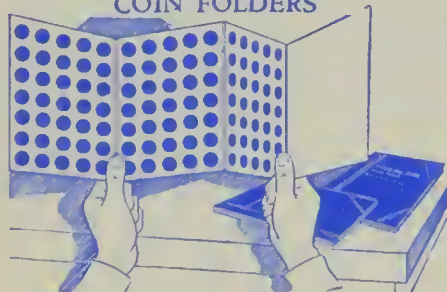
Circulated

1857 F.E. Fine 60¢; V.Gd.....	.35
1858 Lg or Sm, Fine 1.00; V.gd	.50
1859 VF 90¢; Fine 50¢; V.gd..	.25
1860 Fine 50¢; Very good.....	.25
1861 Fine 2.00; Very good....	1.25
1862-63 Fine 25¢; Very good..	.10
1864 CN Fine 1.00; V.good....	.50
1864 L on Rib, Fine plus	10.00
1864 L, V.Gd. 6.00; Good	4.00
1864 Fine 75¢; Very good.....	.25
1865 Fine 50¢; Very good.....	.25
1866 V. fine 4.00; Fine	3.50
1866 V. good 2.00; Good	1.25
1867 Fine 3.50; Very good ...	2.00
1868 Fine 3.50; Very good ...	2.00
1866-67-68-69 Only Fair .....	.35
1869 V. good 2.50; Good	1.50
1870 V. good 3.00; Good	2.00
1871 Extremely fine	8.00
1872 V. good 5.00; Good	3.50
1873-74 V.Gd 75¢; Good .....	.50
1875 V. good 75¢; Good .....	.50
1876 Fine 2.75; Very good....	1.50
1877 Very good	9.00
1878 V. good 1.50; Good	1.00
1885 V. good 50¢; About Unc..	3.00
1908 S, Fine plus 2.75; V.Gd.	1.85
1909 S, Fine 12.50; V.good....	10.00

Just scales and full measures
injure no man.

WHITMAN

COIN FOLDERS



SIZE FOLDED 5 1/4" x 7 1/2"

Made in two tones of blue . . . printed in black and silver, giving a brilliant "Jewel Case" effect to your coin collection.

COMPLETE LIST OF STYLES

No. 9001 Large Cent 1793 to 1825.
No. 9002 Large Cent 1826 to 1857
No. 9003 Indian Eagle Cents 1856 to 1909.
No. 9004 Lincoln Head Cent 1909 to 1945.
No. 9005 Lincoln Head Cent Starting 1946.
No. 9006 Half Dime 1794 to 1873.
No. 9006 Shield Type Nickel 1866 to 1883.
No. 9007 Liberty Head Nickel 1883 to 1913.
No. 9008 Bull to Nickel 1913 to 1938.
No. 9009 Jefferson Nickel Starting 1938.
No. 9010 Bust Type Dime 1796 to 1837
No. 9011 Liberty Seated Dime 1837 to 1862
No. 9012 Liberty Seated Dime 1863 to 1891.
No. 9013 Barber Dime 1892 to 1916
No. 9011 Mercury Head Dime 1916 to 1915
No. 9023 Roosevelt Dime Starting 1946
No. 9015 Barber Quarter 1892 to 1905.
No. 9016 Barber Quarter 1906 to 1915.
No. 9017 Liberty Standing Quarter 1916 to 1930
No. 9018 Washington Head Quarter 1932 to 1945
No. 9019 Washington Head Quarter Starting 1946
No. 9020 Barber Half Dollar 1892 to 1909
No. 9021 Barber Half Dollar 1914 to 1915
No. 9022 Liberty Standing Half Dollar 1916 to 1936
No. 9017 Liberty Standing Half Dollar Starting 1937
No. 9022 Half Cent 1793 to 1857
No. 9023 Three Cent 1861 to 1871
No. 9024 Two Cent Nickel Three Cent 1861 to 1889

PRICE 25¢

* ANCIENT PLATED COINS *

Probably all sizable collections of ancient silver coins contain some plated specimens, that is, pieces with a core of base metal, usually copper, coated with silver. The practice existed from early times, quite likely soon after the use of coins as a means of exchange became general, and was by no means confined to the ancient counterfeit whose work may be frequently detected by its inferior style and craft. In the effort to "stretch" the precious metal supply some of the officially issued coinage of many ancient cities and states was plated and passed as solid silver, the fraud on the public being perhaps nearly as bad as the counterfeiter's issues.

The usual method of making plated coins appears to have been comparatively simple, a lump of copper being hammered into a flan shaped piece and then dipped in molten silver and struck like the genuine silver pieces. Later, after more or less experimenting, an alloy of approximately seven parts silver and three parts copper seems to have been largely used as a plating coat. This had the advantage - to the issuer - of using less silver while still retaining its appearance and further of likely causing a better adhesion of the coating to the core since the alloy melt was equivalent to a silver solder. When given a fairly heavy coating these coins would withstand considerable circulation before exposure of the copper core, and being struck from official dies were rather hard for "the man in the street" to detect, though generally considerably below the normal weight standard.

Good evidence of the widespread practice of coin plating is shown in the large number of coins bearing "test cuts," a hammered out cut in the coin made by the merchant or money changer with a tool something like a small cold chisel to determine whether or not the piece was solid or plated. Judging from the large proportion of test cut coins of some of these ancient cities they must have borne a highly unenviable reputation among traders and merchants. On the other hand some cities, especially those with interests mainly commercial like Athens for instance, took considerable pains to produce a coinage of good silver, honesty indeed being the best policy.

Each of the ancient communities issuing coins followed a definite weight standard, but this does not imply the exactitude required in modern coinage. Coins weighing a few grains, or hundredths of a gram,

FOREIGN GOLD

BAMBERG 1786, 2 Gulden Franc Ludwig, Rare. Abt. Unc.....	\$37.50
BRANDENBERG 1641 Double Ducat Figure in armor standing. Rare Fine	50.00
CHILE 1749, 4 Scudos Ferd VI. Santiago, Rare, V.fine.....	50.00
DENMARK 1757 Ducat Fred V. Helmeted bust. Unc	15.00
FRANCE 1819, 20 Francs Louis XVIII. Very fine	15.00
GUATEMALA 1874, 5 Pesos, Unc.	37.50
HANOVER 1866 Krone Geo. V. Very fine	25.00
HOLLAND 1439-77 Lion D'Or of Philip the Beau. V. fine	25.00
HUNGARY 1648 Double Ducat of Ferd III. Rare, Very fine....	30.00
ITALY 1808, 40 Lire with head Napoleon as Emperor. Milan Mint, Very fine	32.50
MEXICO 1870, 8 Escudos, Ga., Rare. Very fine	50.00
NETHERLANDS 1707 Ducat, Fine.	9.00
1834 PAPAL STATES, Doppia of Gregory XVI. Uncirculated....	20.00
1840, 10 Scudi Gregory XVI, Ext. fine, proof surface.....	50.00
POLAND 1641, Double ducat of Wladislaus IV, Czar of Russia. Shield of Dantzig. Ext.fine..	75.00
ROUMANIA 1890, 20 Lei Carol I. Very fine	18.00
RUSSIA 1875, 5 Roubles of Alexander II. About Unc.....	18.00
SPAIN 1788, 4 Scudo Chas III. Very fine	30.00
WEST INDIES 1774, 6400 Reis stamped with F & G on inserted plug. Fine & very rare	45.00
COLOMBIA 1802, 8 Escudos of Chas III. Very fine	47.50
CUBA 1915, 20 Pesos, Unc.....	75.00
1915, 10 Pesos, About Unc....	30.00
1915, 5 Pesos, Unc.....	18.00
ECUADOR 1855, 8 Scudos, head of Bolivar. Very rare. V.fine...	85.00
EGYPT 1876, 100 Piastres, Unc.	25.00
1922, 100 Piastres or Pound of King Faud I. Uncirculated...	20.00
ENGLAND 1654 Unit or 20 Shillings of Commonwealth. Unc.....	60.00

ANCIENT PLATED COINS (continued)

over or under the standard weight passed equally well, for all eventually went on the money changer's scales and the quality of the coin content was more important than the weight. However, to the modern collector, weight is a quite important factor as a piece of fine design but noticeably underweight may well be suspected to be plated, and if in addition the design is poorly and crudely executed, the chances are quite possible that the coin is either an ancient forgery or the issue of a barbarian tribe.

Submitted by

L. G. Granger, Dayton, Ohio